

Open Letter to Church Board

Date: March 23, 2015

To: Church Board:

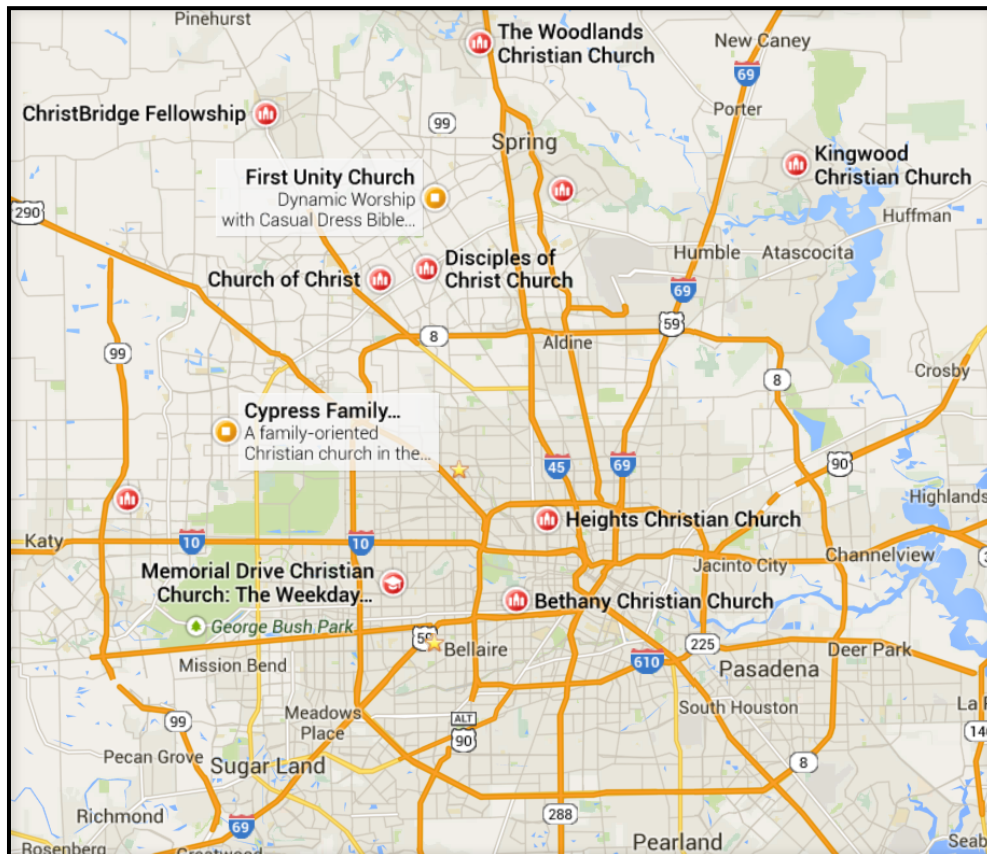
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Ruth Conover, Evangelism
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Mike Powers, Stewardship

Oaks Christian Church
1216 Bethlehem St
Houston, Texas 77018-1918

From: Charlie Dean, church member

MULTI-CHRUCH ACTIVITIES



Disciples of Christ churches in our area

I encourage the Board to consider **multi-church activities**. About once a month, one of the churches could host an after-church lunch. We could have a “multi-church committee” to take care of the details. This would generate some variety and interest. This would probably cause attendance in the churches to fluctuate beyond the norm, as surely some people would choose to attend the church that would be hosting the lunch that particular Sunday. This would help us work together, rather than competitively, as we attempt to attract new members. Hopefully, we would make a special effort to target **young adults (ages 19 – 30)**, the “hard to get” group.

MUSIC

I will mention **music** again. On Sunday, March 22, the congregation participated in singing several songs. Only one song, *In The Garden*, was a gospel song. There is something about chord progressions in gospel music that entrains the listener and especially those who actually participate in the singing. It does not matter whether the song was written in 1815 or 2015.

I can see this entrainment and enthusiasm when our choir sometimes sings entraining songs. Then usually afterwards the congregation will sing a song, but our song lacks the chord progression and beat and entrainment effect.

It does not do justice to our present music director to restrict the congregation to ONLY the songs in the song-books. This restriction makes it appear that he is less talented than he really is. Good gospel music makes you want to two-step or waltz. Its entrainment effect can last for hours after the song is over.

It would be easy enough to print the lyrics and make them available to the congregation, and the words could be projected onto the screen. It is a mystery why this has not been done over the past few years.
